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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/622,525	11/27/2000	Udo Baumeister	VAL-489-A	7430

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EXAMINER

LAM, THANH

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 04/09/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/622,525

Applicant(s)

Baumeister et al.

Examiner

Thanh Lam

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 20) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1--2,6, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Materne et al.

Materne et al. disclose a device for measuring the angle of rotation for an electrical machine equipped with a commutator (see fig.2-3), in which segments of the commutator are formed of an electrically conductive material (not show) penetrable by a magnetic field a basic body (7, fig. 2) of the commutator bearing the segments is permanently magnetized (col. 4, lines 14-16), at least sectionally, and that the stator of the machine is equipped with sensors (20) responding to the rotary status of the commutator.

Regarding claim 2, the sensor has at least one Hall element (col. 6, lines 29-30), which is penetrable by the magnetic field of the commutator.

Regarding claim 5, the basic body has at least one recess (see fig. 3, where the N and S magnetic seat in), into which a prefabricated magnet (N, S) is fitted.

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Regarding claim 9, Materne et al. disclose a device for measuring the angle of rotation for an electrical machine with a shaft, comprising: a commutator (11) including electrically conductive segments (not show) concentrically arranged around a basic body (7) mounted on the shaft wherein the basic body includes at least one magnetized section; and a sensor (20) responding to a magnetic field generated upon rotation of the commutator,

Regarding claim 10, Materne et al. disclose the sensor has at least one Hall element penetrable by the magnetic field.

Regarding claim 11, Materne et al. disclose the sensor is mounted upon a stator of the electrical machine.

Regarding claim 16, Materne et al. disclose the basic body formed of a magnet.

Regarding claim 19, Materne et al. disclose the basic body has a plurality of segmented recesses, each of the plurality of segmented recesses having a magnetic segment fitted therein.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3-4,6,8,12,15, and 17-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Materne et al. in view of Knappe.

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Materne et al. disclose every aspect of the claimed invention except the basic body made plastic (4) insulation.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the basic body of Materne et al. and made of plastic material as taught by Knappe in order to provide a good insulation for the commutator.

Regarding claims 3,6,12 the basic body is made of an electrically insulating material permeable (plastic is magnetic permeable material) to a magnetic field.

Regarding 13. Materne et al. disclose the basic body is made of one of a sectionally magnetized (N, S fig. 3) and a completely magnetized magnet.

Regarding Claims 5 and 8, Knappe the magnet of the basic body is sintered (same as plastic).

5. Claims 7 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Materne et al. et al. in view of Kobman et al.

Sakamaki et al. disclose every aspect of claimed invention except for the magnet of the basic body is molded.

Kobman et al. disclose a magnet of the basic body is molded (see abs.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the magnet and the basic body of Sakamaki et al. and molded together as disclosed by Kobman et al. (col. 2, lines 34-43).

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Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-8, and new claims 9-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO-892.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh Lam whose telephone number is (703) 308-7626. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-3431.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0656.



Thanh Lam

Patent Examiner

April 5, 2002